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March 11, 2012  
Congressman Peter DeFazio  
P.O. Box 1316  
Springfield, OR 97477

Dear Mr. DeFazio,

The filing deadline that ended on March 6th leaves you and me as the two candidates for the Democrat nomination for congress in Oregon district 4. Now seems an appropriate time for the two of us to arrange debates.

I propose that we have two debates. Ideal locations for these debates would be Oregon State University and the University of Oregon. This will give students good access to the events. It also will be a gracious way to welcome OSU to District 4, since they were added in the recent redistricting.

I propose that we use a standard debate format, such as Lincoln-Douglas, as used by high schools and colleges across the country. Alternatively, I suggest we simply alternate speaking at five minute intervals for ninety minutes. Afterward, we could alternate taking questions from the audience. You are welcome to speak first at the first debate, and I will speak first at the second.

The cost of hiring the rooms can be split evenly between us. We would use a large auditorium, freely open to the public. The debates must be held in the evening, so that people who work during the day can attend. Projector equipment will be available in case either candidate would like to show slides.

The best time for these debates is in April. We can adjust the exact time to fit your congressional schedule. Choosing two dates between March 30th and April 15th should work well, since Congress is not in session.

I look forward to discussing with you the important issues that the voters will face in 2012.

Please reply as soon as possible, so that we can arrange the schedule.

Sincerely yours,

Matthew Robinson